



The President's Page Honoring the Past

1903-1906	Joseph E. Flanagan
1907-1908	Karl Steward
1909	E. W. Smith
1910	W. G. Speier
1911-1912	H. H. Jacoby
1913	Karl Steward
1914-1915	Charles Donaldson
1916	Frederick Lamb
1917-1918	Henry Hunt
1919	A. H. Rossbach
1920	A. J. Schuler
1921	D. H. Swinton
1922	W. E. Ford
1923	A. W. Klemme
1924-1925	George Mueller
1926	Henry Hunt
1927-1928	Fred Oppliger
1929-1930	Nicola D'Ascenzo
1931-1937	Charles Connick
1938-1941	Wilbur H. Burnham
1942-1943	Henry Lee Willet
1944-1945	Harold W. Cummings
1946-1947	Harold Rambusch
1948-1949	Orin Skinner
1950-1951	Rupert Schmitt
1952-1953	George Hunt
1954-1955	Karl B. Lamb
1956-1957	Wilbur H. Burnham, Jr.
1958-1959	John D. Weaver, Sr.
1960-1961	George D. Spiers
1962-1963	John A. Riordan
1964-1965	E. Crosby Willet
1966-1967	Otto C. Winterich
1968-1969	Stephen Bridges
1970-1971	Harold L. Hollman
1972-1973	A. W. Klemme, Jr.
1974-1975	James Helf
1976-1977	Patrick White
1978-1979	Helen Hickman
1980-1981	John Kebrle
1982-1983	Bill Laws
1984-1985	Gerhard Hiemer
1986-1987	Elizabeth Perry
1988-1989	Walter Judson
1990	Florence Welborn
1991-1992	Paul Pickel
1993-1994	Truett George
1995-1996	Gary Helf
1997-1998	Kirk Weaver
1999-2000	James Whitney
2001-2002	Dennis Harmon
2003-2004	Karen Hendrix
2005-2006	Andrew Young
2007-2008	B. Gunar Gruenke
2009-2010	Jack Whitworth
2011-2012	Jerome R. Durr
2013-	Susan Shea

Joseph E. Flanagan, who led Chicago, Illinois' largest stained glass studio into the twentieth century, was a founding father and the first President of the Stained Glass Association of America (originally called the National Ornamental Glass Manufacturers' Association), from 1903 to 1906. His first exposure to glass manufacturing was at the New Albany Plate Glass Co. His partnership with William C. Biedenweg formed the glass firm of Flanagan & Biedenweg. www.ebscohost.com

Karl Steward, President of the SGAA from 1907 to 1908 and again in 1913, petitioned the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee in Washington D.C. on behalf of the National Ornamental Glass Manufacturers' Association to maintain a strong protective duty on stained or painted glass windows... It was stated in the petition that "the strongest argument is presented when you contrast the wages and mode of living in the various European countries with the wages paid in the United States and the American standard of living." google.com

Ernest W. Smith, one of the founding fathers of the SGAA and its President in 1909, worked with his father at H. J. Smith & Sons, Philadelphia, PA. One of H. J. Smith & Sons' commissions was the manufacturing of stained glass panels for Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia. The symbols were selected by a Sister of Saint Joseph from H. J. Smith's publication on liturgical symbols. www.chc.edu
[*Bio Index of Historic American Stained Glass Makers*](#)

William G. Speier of Philadelphia took over editorship with the third issue of Volume #1 of the Association Magazine ("*The Monthly Visitor*") following his election as secretary of the Association at its second meeting in Boston in February 1907. The official title became *The Ornamental Glass Bulletin*. He went on to serve as President of the Association in 1910. www.stainedglass.org

H. H. Jacoby was active in trade association affairs and was among the founders of the National Ornamental Glass Manufacturers' Association in 1903 at Columbus, Ohio. He served as President from 1911 to 1912. He wrote extensively for the magazine promoting fair pricing and support of the industry and of the association. He was also very involved in the tariff political situation. The SGAA owns and is in the process of archiving the Jacoby Collection. www.tropicalsails.com/jacobyoppliger/

Charles Donaldson, owner of Toledo Plate & Window Glass Co. in Grand Rapids, Michigan, served as President of the SGAA from 1914 to 1915. His tenure as President focused on keeping the tariff question alive and in the forefront of the membership's concerns as the bitter battle dragged out year after year. [*Ornamental Glass Bulletin June & August, 1914*](#)

Frederick Stymetz Lamb, after studying in Paris, became the head designer and overseer of the shop of skilled craftsmen at the J & R Lamb Studios. He served as President of the New York Glass Workers Association and of the Stained Glass Association of America in 1916. <http://www.lambstudios.com/LambStudiosHistory.pdf>
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